for development of roads already declared as National Highways instead of declaring more roads as National Highways. Therefore no time frame has been set for declaration of new National Highways including those in Rajasthan.

Realignment of Narol-Naroda section of NH-8

2090.SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal in February, 2008 regarding realignment of Narol-Naroda Section of National Highway No. 8; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) No proposal for realignment of Narol - Naroda Section of NH-8 has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Irregularities in NHAI

†2091. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Administrative Tribunal has imposed penalty on Ministry, Secretary and other Officials for unlawfully lingering on a case of deputation in NHAI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government agrees that NHAI is rife with irregularities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (b) The matter relates to deputation of an officer of the Central Engineering Service (Roads) Group 'A' of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). While initially approving the deputation of the said officer to the post of Chief General Manager (Technical) in NHAI, the fact regarding completion of cooling off requirement could not be brought to the notice of the Competent Authority. However, as the officer had not completed the cooling off requirement which was mandatory in terms of the Department of Personnel & Training (DOPT)'s instructions dated 29-2-2008, he was not relieved to join the NHAI. Aggrieved by this, he filed a petition in the Central Administrative Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi. The fact that the officer could not be relieved on account of not fulfilling the cooling off requirement had also been brought to the notice of the competent authority who agreed to cancel the deputation order which, however, could not be issued in view of the interim directions of the Tribunal for maintaining the status quo. The action has

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.